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With the Colors: Jasper County IL Servicemen
Overseas, 1941-1945

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WITH THE COLORS

Sept 11, 1942

Earl Jones, a chief petty officer in the United States Coast Guard, is now stationed in a new encampment in the Navy shipyards in Brooklyn, New York. He writes:

"At present we are living in tents while the boys here are building our barracks. We ate in our new mess hall today, which was the first building completed. I am in charge of one hundred fifty boys here and my job is to keep them physically fit and busy.

"I hunted up Don Lambird of Newton one day last week. He is here in Brooklyn's Port of Embarkation office. Although we graduated together at Newton Community high school, I did not know him very well but it is sure nice to run across someone from Jasper county.

"I have just learned that we chiefs here are to spend one week in September at Camp Smith up-state in New York on the Hudson river. There we will be trained in the use of larger firearms such as cannons, anti-aircraft guns, etc. It should be an interesting week.

"My address now is: Earl Jones, C. B. M., U. S. C. G., Brooklyn Encampment, foot of Columbia street, Brooklyn, New York

Corwin Manning, who is in the United States Army Air Forces, has been here on a few days furlough.

Dee Watkins of Rockford, a brother of Sheriff H. E. Watkins, who is in the United States Navy at Great Lakes near Chicago, has been sent to diesel engine school.

Everett D. Fox, coach at the Newton Community high school last year, has been commissioned as a lieutenant junior grade in the United States Navy and will be in charge of physical education training of men in the service.

Drexel McCormack has been here on a furlough from the Army. He was inducted into the service at Detroit, Michigan, on September 1, and will go to Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan, to report for duty in a few days.

James Wilson is spending a few days' furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wilson of Newton. He has been accepted for submarine duty, after completing his six weeks' training at Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Bixler of near Newton received a letter, Wednesday, from their son, Fay G. Bixler, who is a gunner with the ninth bomber squadron, somewhere in England. He mans the rear turret of a flying fortress. He says that England is a beautiful country and the people are very friendly.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. Weber of Newton received a letter from their son, John Weber Jr., Monday, stating that he was now stationed in Palestine. Bud is with a United States Army Bomber squadron and sailed from an eastern port in the middle of July. He said in his letter that he had visited Jerusalem since he had arrived.

Mrs. Belle Clark and son A. B. Clark of Gila vicinity have just returned from Craig field, Selma, Alabama, where they attended the graduation exercises for class 42-H from the United States Army Air Forces' Advanced Flying school. Her son, Albert H. Clark, was a member of the class and was commissioned a lieutenant in the Air Force. He has been ordered to Maxwell field, Montgomery, Alabama, as an instructor.